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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, June 17, 2011

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<http://www.justice.gov/usao/dc/news/2011/apr/news.html>

Two Brothers Sentenced to Prison Terms of 10 Years or More For Stabbing Man at Bus Stop - Attack Took Place at 5 a.m. on Georgia Avenue NW -

WASHINGTON - Two brothers were sentenced today to prison terms for repeatedly stabbing and attempting to kill a man during an early-morning attack last year at a bus stop on Georgia Avenue NW, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Enrique "Henry" Osorio, 23, and his brother, Jose "Santos" Lopez, 19, both of Washington, D.C., were convicted by a jury in April 2011 of assault with intent to kill while armed, aggravated assault while armed, threatening to injure a person, and carrying a dangerous weapon. The verdicts followed a trial in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

The Honorable Anthony C. Epstein sentenced Osorio to a term of 10 years of incarceration. He sentenced Lopez to 12 years of incarceration. Both defendants will be placed on five years of supervised release upon completion of their prison terms.

A third assailant, Oscar Orellana, 18 – a friend of Osorio and Lopez - previously pled guilty to one count of aggravated assault for his role in the attack. In addition, in September 2010, a jury found Orellana guilty of committing two misdemeanor assaults during the incident. He has been sentenced to a total of 18 months of incarceration for his crimes.

The charges stemmed from an incident that took place about 5 a.m. on February 28, 2010, at a Metrobus stop in the 4800 block of Georgia Avenue NW. The evidence at trial revealed that the three assailants – who had been drinking alcohol within a few hours of the incident – approached the victim, 42, who was at the bus stop with his girlfriend and had planned to go to work that morning. The victim knew all three of the defendants.

Orellana demanded a cigarette from the victim, and struck him in his torso. Afterwards, Orellana, Osorio, and Lopez pulled out knives. Osorio then restrained the victim's girlfriend at knifepoint, while Orellana and Lopez attacked the victim with their knives. Osorio and Lopez shouted, "Let's kill the old man." Lopez jabbed the victim three times in his jaw area, near vital

blood vessels. Orellana sliced the back of the victim's head, behind his left ear. At one point during the attack, the victim was able to disarm Lopez, and defended himself with Lopez's knife.

Osorio switched places with Orellana, and attacked and stabbed the victim while Orellana continued restraining the victim's girlfriend. As a result of the assault, the victim sustained several lacerations about his head, face, shoulder, left arm and left hand, suffered excruciating pain and profuse bleeding, and believed he was going to die. The victim also lost sensation and strength in his left arm and hand, and still bears prominent scars on the back of his head and jaw.

Several minutes after the assault began, an eyewitness – a U.S. Department of State employee who happened to be driving down Georgia Avenue that morning – saw the victim defending himself against Osorio and Lopez. The eyewitness called 911. In an action that likely saved the victim's life, the eyewitness attempted to hit Osorio with his car in hopes of preventing Osorio from further attacking the victim. Osorio, Lopez, and Orellana then ran from the scene. The police obtained descriptions of the suspects, and searched the surrounding neighborhood. About 20 minutes later, the police found the three men hiding in the backyards of two separate houses in the 900 block of Crittenden Street NW. The men were then arrested.

In announcing the sentences, U.S. Attorney Machen commended the excellent work of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) officers who investigated the attack: Detectives Derek Bell, Emilio Martinez, and Elgin Wheeler; Sergeant David Young; and Officers Richard Antoine, Eldred Boria, Myron Glover, Eric Hampton, Michael Henderson, Christopher Kenneth, Adrian Lancaster, Michael Muldrow, Clifton Murphy, Pedro Peña, Qassim Thomas, and Enrique Valdes.

U.S. Attorney Machen also praised the outstanding work of U.S. Attorney's Office Victim Advocate Melissa Milam for her invaluable assistance to the victim and the prosecution team. U.S. Attorney Machen recognized the assistance of Paralegal Specialist Debra Smith. Finally, he expressed his special appreciation to Assistant U.S. Attorneys Magdalena Acevedo and Seth Adam Meinero, who investigated and tried the case.